

File: H\_H\_Hall\_1861\_11\_21.doc  
Typed by IB 1988  
OCR by Ian Bracher March 2010  
Checked against MS by IB 12 March 2010

Henry Hastings Hall to Sarah Bracher, 21 November 1861

Mandurah W A

Nov 21st 1861

My dear Sister

I received a number of papers from you per last mail Your case will I believe be forwarded by the *Laughing Water* I could not ascertain the agent's name — a Chinese merchant in Melbourne but left an open letter with Mr Manning for him to fill it in and enclose a Bill of lading I hope you will receive it safely. You will be glad to hear that Gregory's party arrived last Saturday week all in good health with no other casualty except losing six horses from scarcity of water They have discovered an extensive tract of good country many large rivers strange and beautiful birds and fruits & flowers &c &c I will send you the report when it is published I took two horses to Perth to bring S down but they have lately discovered gold here, at Northam on A Morgan's land and a number of our most influential men solicited Shake to act as a second in command of a prospecting party, the Governor's nephew Mr Panter sometime in Victoria and now inspector of police here being at the head. Subscriptions are collecting through the country and the Governor has promised to give a little sum to whatever is collected — the Party started last Tuesday so our brother did not see his home or friends except myself. The auriferous specimens are poor but it may lead to something better and I have no doubt other parties will follow and give the Colony a fairer trial than it has had hitherto. I am not very sanguine but should anything good transpire you shall have truthful and early particulars. Gregory's Expedition discovered an abundance of pearl oysters, Shake brought back a few pearls which he sold to the Crown Solicitor for £10. F is well and learning to be a carpenter. We are all well and trust you are all the same. The *Laughing Water* will sail tomorrow, with love to George yourself and family

Your affect brother

H H Hall

I think I directed your other letter to the Sandhurst office